

NEW YORK HERALD

BROADWAY AND ANN STREET.

JAMES GORDON BENNETT,
PROPRIETOR.

Rejected communications will not be returned.

Volume XXXVI.—No. 178

AMUSEMENTS THIS EVENING.

OLYMPIC THEATRE, Broadway.—THE DRAMA OF
KATHLEEN MAYOUREN.BOOTH'S THEATRE, 253 st., between 5th and 6th avs.—
THE MAN OF AILKIE.WOOD'S MUSEUM, Broadway, corner 25th st.—Perform-
ances every afternoon and evening.—H. N. P. DUMPHY.WALLACK'S THEATRE, Broadway and 15th street.—
THE LONG STRIKE.NIBLO'S GARDEN, Broadway.—THE DRAMA OF THE
COLLEEN BAWN.BOWERY THEATRE, Bowery.—THE PLAY OF LONK
NAN.GLOBE THEATRE, 728 Broadway.—THE DRAMA OF
THE POLICE SPY.FIFTH AVENUE THEATRE, Twenty-fourth street.—
DEMOCRACY.GRAND OPERA HOUSE, corner of 5th av. and 23d st.—
LA FRIEBOULE.TONY PASTOR'S OPERA HOUSE, No. 201 Bowery.—
UNCLE TOM'S CABIN.CENTRAL PARK GARDEN.—THEODORE THOMAS'
SUMMER NIGHTS' CONCERTS.TERRACE GARDEN, Fifty-eighth street, between Lexington
and Third avs.—GRAND GALA CONCERT.DR. KAHN'S ANATOMICAL MUSEUM, 745 Broadway.—
SCIENCE AND ART.

TRIPLE SHEET.

New York, Tuesday, June 27, 1871.

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ANOTHER FRONT PLATFORM CAR tragedy is re-
ported. A man in getting off one yesterday
was run over and killed. When are we to
have some front platform regulation that will
prevent such shocking accidents?

SENATOR CAMERON is strongly endorsed for
the Vice Presidency on General Grant's ticket
in 1872, and the proposition is being very
generally agitated. The administration is
doubtless favorable to him, for he and the
President have been in harmonious accord
ever since their fishing excursion.

THE WORKINGMEN OF NEWARK, OHIO, have
learned a more effective trick than "striking."
When their employer won't pay them a hun-
dred or so of them capture him and hold him
in duress until he settles up. That is the
way in which they served a Mr. Tight recently.
It succeeded for the time, but whether it is
likely to encourage harmonious relations
between capital and labor is questionable.

THE KU KLUX are pretty lively in Illinois
and Indiana. Neither of these States has
been fully reconstructed since its "rebel"
days. In Illinois a man recently hanged a
school mistress for whipping his child, and she
was nearly dead when she was cut down; and
in Indiana some persons unknown threw tor-
pedoes and shells into the house of a quiet
family, injuring nearly all the inmates and
firing the house.

PRESIDENT GRANT, in an interview with
our correspondent at Long Branch yesterday,
stated that Secretary Fish had not resigned
and he hoped he would not; that Tom Mur-
phy is not to be removed from the Custom
House, and that no changes are contemplated
in the federal offices in Brooklyn. The noise
made about these matters, said the President,
is the rumour that outsiders kick up in trying
to get inside the official coach.

THE SAILING OF THE POLARIS.—The
steamer Polaris, Captain Hall, commander,
was not sent to-day for the North Pole, as
was at first intended. This little vessel is now
the object of attention to scientific men all the
world over. In a day or two Captain Hall,
with a skillful crew, will be off to those mys-
terious but attractive Polar regions, which
have tempted so many, which have brought
fame to so many, which have brought
honor to not a few. Franklin, McClintock,
Hayes, Kane—all have made names. Still a
mystery remains. Captain Hall may solve
the mystery. At all events, if he does not solve
the mystery, he may make fame.

TWO PECULIAR MURDERS have just occurred
in Maryland. One is that of an insane woman,
ladylike in her appearance, who was shot by
one of a party of four men, who alleges that
he mistook her for a chicken thief of whom
they were in search. The other is that of an
aged negro man, who, "coming within range
of the gun" of Dr. Bean, of Charles county,
was naturally shot, and Dr. Bean now relies
on temporary insanity for his defence under
the constitution as it is. The first murder is
beyond any justification, for even chicken
thieves are not to be shot down with impunity,
and we can see no acceptable reason for the
latter one (temporary insanity being con-
sidered, we believe, merely a legal quibble),
except the great temptation the chivalric Bean
had to shoot at what was apparently a "good
pick."

Chief Justice Chase, the Democratic Party
and the "New Departure."

The new departure of the Northern demo-
cracy, though generally recognized as a
party necessity, is still, to some extent, in-
volved in mystery, particularly in reference
to the late C. L. Vallandigham, as the pioneer
in the movement. How did it happen that
he, of all the democratic leaders, was se-
lected to break ground in the acceptance of
the three new amendments to the national
constitution, and by what influences was he
chosen for this bold undertaking? We think
the mystery is solved in the simple declara-
tion that this new departure was contrived as
a movement in the interest of Chief Justice
Chase, looking to the Presidential Democratic
Convention of 1872. We are strongly in-
clined to this belief from the intimate polit-
ical relations which have existed between the
Chief Justice and Mr. Vallandigham since
1868, and because we think it can be shown
that in and since the Tammany National Con-
vention a perfect understanding between these
two men has guided the movements of both
looking to the Presidential game of the best
foot foremost.

First, as an evidence of the "happy ac-
cord" existing between the Chief Justice and
Mr. Vallandigham in 1871, we submit the fol-
lowing letter from the former to his Ohio col-
laborer in grateful recognition of the first
practical step taken in this new departure:—

WASHINGTON, D. C., May 20, 1871.
MY DEAR SIR—I have just read the resolutions of
the Montgomery County (Ohio) Democratic Con-
vention, and I am glad to find that your re-
marks and those of Mr. Conk. You have rendered
a great service to your country and the party—at
least such is my judgment. May God bless you for
it. Nothing can be true than your declaration that
the movement contemplated by the resolutions is
the restoration of the democratic party to its
platform of progress and reform. I know you too
well to doubt your courage or your fidelity to your
convictions. Very truly yours, S. P. CHASE.
Hon. C. L. VALLANDIGHAM.

Here, it will be observed, the Chief Justice
becomes enthusiastic in his gratitude. "You
have rendered a great service to your country
and the party. May God bless you for it." The
movement is altogether agreeable to Mr.
Chase, because it brings him and the demo-
cracy together again on the same platform "of
progress and reform" after a separation of a
quarter of a century on the negro question. It
may be fairly assumed, too, that Mr. Chase,
in this prompt and grateful approval of this
new departure of Mr. Vallandigham, wished
to be identified with it as a party man, and
that his object was to be ahead of all the other
democratic candidates for the White House in
giving this forward movement his hearty sup-
port. Doubtless he knew all about it in ad-
vance of any other democratic candidate from
a preconcerted arrangement with Mr. Val-
landigham on the subject; for we all know
that the movements of parties and of govern-
ments and dynasties are managed by a few
wire-worms behind the scenes.

Mr. Chase, in this aforesaid letter, says of
his trusty Ohio friend:—"I know you too well
to doubt your courage or your fidelity to your
convictions." There could be no doubt of this
fidelity, for had it not been tried and proved
in the Tammany Convention of 1868? In that
Convention Mr. Pendleton was the favorite of
Ohio and the West against the field; but he
was not the favorite of Mr. Vallandigham.
Between Pendleton and Vallandigham, in fact,
the relations existing at that time were some-
what like the relations which now exist be-
tween Senators Fenton and Conkling, of this
State. It is the old story. Pendleton aspired
to be the head chief of his party in Ohio, and
Vallandigham aspired to the same position,
and the State was not big enough for both of
them, just as the New York Custom House to-
day is not big enough to hold both Murphy
and Greeley. Conspicuous, then, and heartily
active in behalf of the nomination of Mr. Chase
by the Tammany Convention, was Mr. Val-
landigham. Failing, however, to bring the old
Bourbons to this new departure with a repub-
lican for a candidate, Mr. Vallandigham
rushed through the nomination of Horatio
Seymour, thus completely cutting out Pen-
dleton, and thus leaving the field open for the
West and for Mr. Chase on a new departure in
1872.

We suppose that all this was understood be-
tween Mr. Chase and his Ohio chief engineer
from 1868 to 1871. Unfortunately for the
Chief Justice, then came the untimely death
of his shrewd, courageous and trusty friend,
Mr. Pendleton, in Ohio, thus comes again into
the foreground. As for Mr. Chase, he missed
his opportunity in 1868. Then, if the Tam-
many Convention had nominated him, even on
the Wade Hampton platform, the glorious
Union war record of Chase would have neu-
tralized those ugly resolutions, and many re-
publicans would have supported him. We
have always suspected that even Greeley, with
"three sheets in the wind," during the Tam-
many balloting, would have gone for Chase as
the democratic candidate against Grant as the
republican nominee. But since 1868 the course
of the Chief Justice in the Andy Johnson im-
peachment trial, and his opinions on his own
legal tender act, and his position in the Tam-
many Convention, all taken together, have
operated to cut off all his former republican
friends and followers, without gaining him the
confidence of the old democratic Bourbons.

In a conversation with a HERALD corre-
spondent at Cincinnati the other day the Chief
Justice said, among other things touching the
political situation:—"I should think this new
departure would have a great influence in the
coming election. A great deal, of course,
depends upon the candidates and the platforms.
If the democrats nominate a good man, who
will command the popular confidence, and
place him upon the new departure platform,
he will, I think, stand a good chance of being
elected. There is a great deal of dissatis-
faction with the republican party. Many people
who are anxious for peace believe we cannot
have peace between the North and the South
while the republican party remains in power.
Before harmony between the two sections is
restored there must be a general amnesty pro-
claimed. Now, while there are a number of
men in the republican party—men like Greeley
and Butler—who favor general amnesty, the
mass of the party leaders are against it. You
remember how last winter Congress refused
to pass an amnesty bill," &c.—all of which
goes to show that Mr. Chase is still in the
Presidential field. Now, however, we think,
that, like the Count de Paris in the French
revolution of 1848, he comes "too late."

Mr. Chase supposes that the republicans
will renominate General Grant, and supposes

that he is their strongest man, but, neverthe-
less, the Chief Justice understands that "there
is considerable opposition among some of the
republicans to Grant's renomination," and it
is the learned jurist's opinion, too, that the
people pay off the national debt, and would
pay it off "as readily with any man in the
White House as with General Grant." From
all this it is manifest that Mr. Chase, so far as
General Grant is concerned, believes, with
Mr. Greeley, in the one-term principle; but
from all this we only see that, as a politician,
Mr. Chase does not comprehend the great
events of the day nor their pressure upon the
public mind in reference to the Presidential
question.

We can tell him that General Grant is recog-
nized by the people as a great improvement
upon Andrew Johnson in the matter of the
redemption of the public debt; that the great
treaty of the Joint High Commission is win-
ning golden opinions for the administration
from all sorts of men; that the horrible
atrocities of the Paris Commune have pro-
duced a great moral reaction even in
the United States in favor of "the
powers that be"; that the republican malcon-
tents arrayed against General Grant are dis-
appointed spoilsmen and place hunters, and
that while the great Powers of Europe recog-
nize the commanding position among the
nations gained by the United States from the
honest peace policy which has marked Gen-
eral Grant's administration, he is recognized
at home as the master of the Presidential suc-
cession. There was "considerable opposition
among some of the republicans," including Mr.
Chase, to the renomination of Abraham Lin-
coln in 1864; but with his renomination all
this opposition melted away. So it will be
with the renomination of General Grant. Nor
does this new departure promise the demo-
cratic restoration anticipated by the Chief
Justice with a good candidate; for in placing
the democracy upon the republican platform
it makes them the endorsers of all they have
been condemning and fighting for the last ten
years, for the last forty years. To sum up our
case with the Chief Justice, from present ap-
pearances his political career is ended, and
General Grant, against all comers, is far
ahead, and holds the inside track for 1872.

Earl Granville Hopes the Two Countries
Will Always Be Friends.

In these words Earl Granville concluded
the speech he delivered at the banquet of the
Cobden Club, in London, last Saturday.
There is a great deal of meaning in them,
particularly as they came from the able
British Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs
and were inspired by the theme of the treaty
just made between England and the United
States. To these words every right-thinking
Englishman and American will say amen.
Nor do we doubt that Lord Granville was
earnest and sincere in expressing the hope
that England and the United States would
always be friends, for he is one of the most
advanced and liberal minded British statesmen
as well as one of the ablest. At last, and
after continued jealousy of this country and
repeated efforts to check its growth and in-
fluence, the foremost men of Great Britain are
changing their policy. They see the neces-
sity of friendly relations with the Great
Republic—of a closer union with the younger
and greater English speaking nation. We
think, too, the mass of the English people
have the same views and wishes with regard
to the United States.

No doubt this change of sentiment or feeling
springs from a selfish motive. Nations are
generally selfish in their policy, and none
more so than England. If we were weak or
in great difficulty she would, probably, be as
overbearing as heretofore, and would damage
us if she thought her own interests would be
promoted by doing so. Nor do we think the
aristocratic and governing class of England
has any good feeling for our republican insti-
tutions, for they are a standing protest against
the monarchical and class government of Eng-
land. But this republic has got beyond the
age of childhood. It is a giant now. The
British are conscious of this fact, and in this
lies the secret of the recent outburst of friend-
ship. Well, we will not dwell upon the self-
ishness of England nor upon her past conduct,
but look to the future. She is comparatively
isolated now in the great movements in Europe.
Her prestige is gone there, and a disposition
is manifested by the great Powers to snub her.
Her greatest and firmest European friend,
unhappy France, is prostrate. She has to
look to other friends and alliances, and the
most natural one is the American republic.
If England be resolved to maintain cordial
relations with us and will march with us
in the way of progress, assim-
ilating her institutions more and more to
ours, she will not only find a firm ally in the
United States, but will become, as the bul-
wark and regulator of freedom, a great and
controlling Power in Europe again—the nation
to which the people of that Continent will look
for support in their struggle for liberty and
self-government.

Foster, the Car-Track Murderer.

Fearfully atrocious as the Foster murder
was—and in this regard almost without a
parallel—and though naturally exciting, as it
did and does, the general public indignation,
it is only natural, of course, that his counsel
should employ every means in his power to
save the condemned man from suffering the
extreme penalty of the law. With this view
application was made to Judge Cardozo, of
the Supreme Court, before whom he was tried,
for a new trial, and the strongest possible case
within the compass of legal ingenuity was
made out for the prisoner, no less than twelve
specific errors being indicated in the late trial.
Legal acumen did not suffice. Judge Car-
dozo, with that stern and strict impartiality
characteristic of him, has reviewed each of
the points of error raised and decided against
them. The decision, and the opinion embody-
ing the decision, which was given yesterday,
will be found elsewhere, and rarely a more
clearly logical opinion emanates from a
judicial tribunal. As will be seen, he decides
adversely to the application. Since the case
is not appealable to the General Term, the
only recourse left for Foster is to find some
more complacent judge or trust to Executive
clemency. As the case looks now, there seems
very little hope of saving him from the gallows
on the 14th of next month, as designated in
his sentence.

The Brazilian Empire—Its Resources and
Present and Future Prospects.

The only empire, or, indeed, the sole mono-
archy, of the New World, has recently been
brought into more than usual prominence by
drift of several circumstances of late occur-
rence, among which may be named the selec-
tion of the Emperor Dom Pedro as one of the
referees in the matter of the Treaty of Wash-
ington, his Majesty's trip to Europe and the
measures now being undertaken in the
Brazilian Assembly to secure a peaceful
emancipation of all the slaves in the empire.

In at least two of these matters Americans
may very reasonably be assumed to experience
a deep degree of interest, if not of solicitude—
to wit, the Brazilian commissionership and the
emancipation problem. The first interests us
not merely by its pecuniary aspect
with reference to the award in adju-
dication under the stipulations of the
Joint High Treaty, but it is also interesting
from the fact that it brings us into a singular
form of intimacy. The only monarchy on the
American Continent is called upon to act as an
arbitrator between ourselves, as a republic, and
a kingdom of the Old World. In the
South American Continent the empire of Brazil
holds the first place, not merely by virtue
of territorial area, but by resources, by geo-
graphical position, and by its strength as a
government. The same relative position in
the Northern Continent is held by ourselves,
and it is not to be deemed as an over-sanguine
reflection that each nation will at no remote
day have absorbed nearly all that Nature in
her lines of geographic demarcation has in-
tended for it. Upon these questions of rela-
tive position and strength, therefore, we are
analogous, but in everything else there is a
divergence—in race, in language, in religion,
in politics and in condition. At present Brazil
is a slaveholding Power; we have but re-
cently, after a terribly severe struggle, shaken
off that incubus by the severest means known
to mankind—the resort to arms. Brazil is now
engaged in a great effort to free herself from
the odium as well as the danger to which she
is subjected by her slave power; and in this
effort she challenges the attention of all the
philanthropists of the era, as well as of the
statesmen of the world at large, and of our
own country in particular.

Our special correspondence from Rio Janeiro
has recently treated of these subjects at some
length; and a glance at the present condition
of Brazil, with some reflections upon her ap-
parent future, as reflected by the opinions of
his Majesty Dom Pedro, expressed in an inter-
view with a HERALD correspondent, will be
opportune and appropriate.

No census of the empire has ever been
taken, but, in the opinion of the ablest
Brazilian political economists and histori-
ographers, the free population of the country
does not exceed nine millions. This, of
course, includes the Indian tribes of the
Amazon and the Matto Grosso provinces, a
very large proportion of which are not merely
"untaxed" and unproductive, but are also un-
taxable and destructive. The slave population
is computed at about three millions, and, es-
timating the civilized or useful white and
Indian population at six millions, we have, in-
cluding the slaves, about nine millions of
people whose individual exertions aid the ex-
istence and material development of the
nation. This small population is dispersed
over a region of country little inferior in either
extent or natural riches to the United States,
and it was in connection with this state of
facts that the Emperor remarked to our cor-
respondent, "Brazil is too large—too large for
her population." The development of the
country must, therefore, be necessarily slow,
and colonization and emancipation seem at
present to be the two most potent means of
overcoming the difficulty. To this end the
Assembly of the nation, as well as the pro-
vincial legislatures, have for some years past
directed their energies by holding forth flatter-
ing inducements to emigrants; and now, by
the presentation of an emancipation bill in the
Chamber of Deputies, a second impulse will
be given to material progress and social enlight-
enment. By the Emperor's voluntary admis-
sion, the southern provinces of the empire are
the wealthiest and most flourishing, and these
happen to be also the provinces in which
colonization has been tried and is still making
its mark. It is a curious circumstance, also,
that in these very provinces there is a very
small proportion of slave labor performed,
and their prosperity may, therefore, be more
fairly ascribed to the influence of the hardy
and energetic colonists themselves. Railroads
are being pushed forward among them with
greater rapidity than in any other section of
the realm, and this is to be attributed to the
fact that the colonists have made railroads a
necessity as well as a prospectively remunerative
investment.

With reference to emancipation, the terms
of the bill now before the Assembly, as will be
seen by perusal, are liberal in the extreme, and
though providing only for a gradual
extinguishment of the "peculiar institution,"
it must be conceded that it is fully as radical
as the occasion would seem to demand or the
condition of the nation to justify. The peace-
ful disenfranchisement of a slave people will
always be a question to be governed by con-
siderations of opportunity, power and appro-
priateness of method, as well as of humanity.
Hitherto there has been little else than "talk"
on the subject of emancipation in Brazil.
Action has at last been resolved on, and
though the present measure may be some-
what modified before its passage, there is little
reason to doubt that by virtue of its provi-
sions no slave will be found in the empire at
the close of the present century.

In the interest of the nation the government
has lately evinced its desire to promote com-
merce by granting a subsidized concession to
an American company to run a coast line of
steamers between Para and Rio Janeiro, with
semi-monthly trips; and numerous franchises
have lately been awarded to both English and
American capitalists and engineers for the
construction of lines of interior and coast
railways, docks and other commercial enter-
prises. The finances of the nation are by no
means embarrassed, and though there has
been a marked falling off in the revenue
of the past year the diminution is readily
traceable to local causes, and is by no means
owing to the general status of the nation.
In the settling of expenses incurred by the
war alone there has been paid

during the year over eight and a quarter mil-
lions of dollars, the whole cost of the war to
the present time having reached the large total
of one hundred and ninety-three millions of
dollars. The deficiency in revenue and the
excess of expenditure for the year vary about
four millions of dollars from the budget es-
timate; but in the first place the causes are
mainly attributable to the Franco-German
war, a falling off in the customs collections,
owing to previous excessive importation, and a
short coffee crop; and, in the second place,
to the expenditure of considerable sums for
internal improvement.

Since the agitation of the Emperor's trip to
Europe there has been some political prognos-
tication of abdication and of revolution; but
these matters are not to be seriously thought
of. It is true that a "republican club" is in
actual existence in Rio, with a large sign
announcing its proclivities publicly displayed
over the club house door, in the principal
street of the city, and that some of the local
officers in the interior provinces and along the
Amazon are in the sordid category; but as a
whole there is every reason to assume that
there is a brilliant future yet in prospect for
the country even under its monarchical rulers.
To the realization of this future the existing
government may do much by the lightning
and equalization of taxation, by the suppres-
sion of illegal or onerous exercise of power
by those in authority, and by the amelioration
of the condition of the people in the auspicious
manner which has so recently been inaugu-
rated.

Constitutional Reform in Pennsylvania—
Arguments in Favor of a Convention.

The Pennsylvania Legislature in the last
hours of the recent session agreed to submit
to a vote of the people in October the question
of calling a convention to prepare a new con-
stitution. There can be little doubt that a
large majority will vote in favor of the
measure, and that the assent of the people to
the Convention will be obtained independently
of mere party considerations. The arguments
in favor of a new constitution for that State
are so manifold and so forcible that any other
result is scarcely possible.

The present constitution was formed in
1838. The Convention to which its prepara-
tion was entrusted was composed of such men
as Thaddeus Stevens, George Chambers and
other lawyers already eminent in their profes-
sion, and their work was well performed in
every respect. But the State had then
scarcely begun her career of greatness and
prosperity. Agriculture, it is true, yielded a
rich return; but her mines were undeveloped
and her coal fields unexplored. The network
of railroads which now encompass nearly
every county in the Commonwealth had not
been built, and neither the politicians had
learned to know nor the people to fear the
power of great corporations. The spirit of
monopoly was still as dormant as the energies
of the people and the teeming material
resources of the State. Intellectually, too,
the State was backward. The common school
system had been established only four years,
and there was still a violent opposition to its
preservation. There were prisons, but no
grand system of State charities. The courts
administered justice according to the forms of
the common law, and the Legisla-
ture performed many of the functions
properly belonging to the Bench. Not more
backward than many other States, perhaps,
Pennsylvania was still far enough behind the
age to make a vigorous effort to catch up with
the times necessary now. This it will be the
duty of her Constitutional Convention to ac-
complish, and thus place the State in the
proud position she ought to occupy as the key-
stone of the federal arch.

Since the present constitution was adopted
many changes have taken place—changes in
the sentiments of the people as well as in the
development of the wealth of the country.
The old race of "Pennsylvania Dutch" has
almost disappeared, both in spirit and in name.
Their ideas have disappeared with them. The
Pennsylvania Railroad Company has grown up
into an immense corporation, dictating the
policy and controlling the legislation of the
State. Other roads compete with it without
success or yield to and become a part of it,
while the people are beginning to fear its
usurpations and to groan under its exactions.
Its president possesses more actual power
than the Governor of the State, and under its
fostering care the lobby at Harrisburg has
become more powerful than the General As-
sembly. Some means must be found to curb
its power and protect the people, but its
influence for good must not be crippled while
restraining its influence for evil. This can
only be done by compelling it and all other
corporations to transfer the scene of their
operations from the Legislature to the courts;
to prefer their petitions to judges and not to
legislators, as is now the case with any ordi-
nary suitor; to seek their rights under the
law, but not to make the law to suit their
selfish ends; to become, in short, thoroughly
and completely subordinate to the State with-
out exerting any extraneous or undue influence
in shaping the legislation for the Common-
wealth.

The merest tyro in political science may
perceive that this is a question of vast impor-
tance, not only to the people of Pennsylvania,
but of other States as well. But the end is
one not easy of accomplishment—its attain-
ment is no slight task. To make the effort
even partially successful the powers of the
Legislature must be limited and clearly de-
fined—the powers of the courts must be en-
larged so that the law can take the place, in
a great measure, of legislation. Acts of a
private nature must be rendered nugatory, and
only laws of a general character, bearing upon
the whole people alike, must have constitu-
tional validity. If the Convention can frame
an article of such broad and comprehensive
significance, and in such close, concrete and
unmistakable terms as to make this idea, enter-
tained by many of the best men of both par-
ties in the State, of practical value, it will
accomplish a work never excelled by any de-
liberative body in the world.

At the same time the rights of sections and
municipalities must be respected. All local
questions ought to have a local settlement.
The building of a bridge or a market is a mat-
ter for a county or a borough, and not for the
General Assembly. The incorporation of a
college or a society, an asylum or a race
course can be made with the same validity if

signed by a judge as when bearing the signa-
ture of the Governor. An enlargement of the
powers of municipalities will be necessary at
the same time with the enlargement of the
powers of the courts; and, as the rights of
minorities, or rather of individuals, must be
protected in these local bodies, a system
should be adopted which will have the hap-
pied effects. Minority representation was
not thought of when the constitution of Penn-
sylvania was framed, and this will not be the
least difficult question with which the Con-
vention will have to deal.

On the whole it seems to us there are strong
and pressing reasons for calling this Con-
vention, and if wise and able men can be found
to compose it—such as ex-Senator Buckalew, for
instance—we shall expect from it the best
results.

The Yacht Regattas and the Boat Clubs.

The regattas of the yacht clubs now taking
place have an interest outside of the imme-
diate circle of the yachtsmen which cannot
fail to be exceedingly salutary. This interest
is more generally felt among boating men than
any other class of muscular Christians; but
with them it amounts almost to a passion. In
the success of the yachtsmen they see the
growth of the boating interest, and whatever
stimulates the development of their favorite
sport is to them worthy of their utmost enthu-
siasm.

It is little more than forty years since the
boat clubs of Cambridge and Oxford began
their annual races on the Thames. Before
Thackeray died he recorded in one of his
novels—it was in "Pendennis"—that the inter-
est in these contests was a *furor*. Now all
the world reads the story of this annual race
with as much avidity as that which people
once evinced in tales of travel and adventure.
America is as impatient as England, New York
as anxious as London, for the details of each
trial of nerve and skill between the University
men. The contests between our own Uni-
versity crews—Harvard and Yale—are waited for
with only less interest and impatience, and
both the races at home and in England serve
to stimulate the progress of amateur boating.
The international race between Harvard and
Oxford, in which the American crew came out,
if beaten, yet not without honor, more than any
single event fostered a new spirit among the
young men of this country, and especially of
this city.

A few years ago the North, East and Harlem
rivers were in possession of a set of rough-
handed and rough-tongued men, many of whom
were constantly objects of interest to the
harbor police. Now young gentlemen from
the offices and stores and counting-rooms down
town have formed themselves into clubs for
athletic exercises and go out on the water
for their favorite sport. Among the best
known clubs are the Gullicks, Atlantic, Col-
umbia and Nassau on the North River, and the
Gramercy, Nautilus and Athletic, and the
Free College Rowing Association on the East
and Harlem rivers, besides those in Brooklyn
and at Newtown Creek, Astoria, Hoboken,
Jersey City, Staten Island, Bergen Point,
Yonkers, Newburg and other places on the
Hudson. Additions are constantly made to
their numbers, and though more clubs have
been formed and out of better material in the
last two or three years than during the eight
or ten years previously, yet there is no dimi-
nution either in the interest felt by the mem-
bers of the old clubs or the desire for athletic
sport which prompts the formation of new
ones. The business suit of the morning
yields place to the boating shirt in the after-
noon, and this again gives place to the dress
coat in the evening; but the river sport never
palls and the devotee of the water gains ten
proselytes from society where society carries
off one faint-hearted champion of his club.

While nothing can impair the interest felt
among our young men in boating matters the
yachting season ought to give a new impulse
to this favorite sport. It is time that the
clubs cultivated closer relations toward each
other, and filled a more important place in the
public eye than they have yet aspired to occupy.
In this respect they have much to learn from
the yachtsmen, and we hope the present
yachting season will not be allowed to go by
without the lesson being fully taken to heart
by the boat clubs. A system of prizes sim-
ilar to those of the yacht clubs, and a season set
apart for trials of skill on the rivers, would do
more to preserve and promote a genuine
interest in boating than can be attained by
any other course which may be adopted by
boating men.

Personal Intelligence.

Ex-United States Senator McDonald, of Arkansas,
is stopping at the St. Nicholas.
Judge Richard Busted, of Alabama, has taken
quarters at the Sturtevant House.
Colonel W. T. Miller, of Governor Hoffman's staff,
is at the Gilsey House.
Dewitt C. Littlejohn is residing at the Fifth
Avenue.
Dr. A. M. Ross, of Canada,